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The Undergraduate.

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Editors' Table.

IT would seem that Middlebury College is a modest institution. Comparatively, we seldom hear of her off the campus. Our present students do not manifest that college spirit which should and does characterize those of nearly every college. A few appear to think it commendable to speak of our college in a sarcastic manner or in sneering terms. Then there is occasionally one here, as in all walks of life, of the sort known as chronic kickers, who are habitually harping on some worn-out and forsaken subject. They would doubtless die if they could not do this. True, we are not a large college, but we are not inferior to any in true worth, and we believe we have opportunities and educational training unsurpassed by other institutions and worthy our zealous support and candid commendation. Our location, our faculty and our college itself constitute an institution of which we may justly be proud; and, after visiting several colleges in times past, we are glad and proud to tell others that we are a student at Middlebury and to speak in her behalf. Why should we not do this? Many of us have friends who will enter college next fall. Why not speak a word in favor of Middlebury and invite them here to visit us? Let us have sub-freshmen come here and breathe the true air of manliness which is prevalent, and associate with our student body, and meet our professors; then they will return home enthusiastic for our college. We as a student body need not take second place to faculty and corporation combined in increasing the number of students. Let us return next fall with a large entering class, each member bringing at least one freshman as his laurels, and we as the student body and as individuals will reap as great or greater benefits than the college. The larger number of alumni we turn out, the more territory we obtain students from, the more wide-spread its reputation becomes and the more generally the character of our college is made known. When these things are accomplished, by a little extra effort on our part, so shall we add to the value and worth of our diplomas. In the same proportion, also, we shall add to our reputation, to our chances of success in obtaining lucrative positions or professional attainments and to our general reception in the world.

ALTHOUGH perhaps unnecessary, in view of the fact that all will doubtless be present who can, yet we wish to extend to our alumni a most urgent invitation to attend our Commencement exercises. Alumni claim, and perhaps rightly, to enjoy most the visits to their college; yet we hardly think they fully realize the genuine pleasure and enjoyment we as students experience in meeting these, our predecessors, who have passed into the stern realities of life and to higher ranks of distinguishment and honor. To meet these and form their acquaintance, whom we hold in sincere respect, gives us pleasure and renewed and strengthened incentives for our future life. There is also another fact which, although painful, yet should

not be passed over. Our alumni, especially our older ones, are fast passing away. Almost every year some one enjoys his last Commencement at old Middlebury and is summoned to that greater and more glorious Commencement in heaven. We cannot foresee which will be our last year to enjoy; therefore should we not improve the present? Unusually good exercises are expected this year during Commencement week, and we hope to see an unusually large number of alumni present.

IT is hoped that the class of '93 will make a precedent in this college of what has already been done in a few of our higher institutions, and that is to effect a permanent class organization. This can be done by electing officers for a term of five or more years, with provisions for social meetings of the class every year during Commencement, with larger gatherings and business meetings once in five years or as the term of office may extend. Such an organization would be of inestimable value both to the individuals of the class and to the college and would set an example for succeeding classes. In this way each individual of the class might know of the others and mutual aid and benefits would consequently result. Then the interest in the college would be more enthusiastic and visits would be made more often, and a greater influence for the prosperity of the college would be exerted.

WITH every return of spring poetical effusions seem to spring forth spontaneously from persons of literary genius. The extent of enthusiasm is generally in proportion to the extent to which Nature has bestowed her beauties upon the surroundings of the writer. Here in Vermont any one has a right to become inspired by the magnificent scenery, which, in the minds of a large number of people, is shown to a greater advantage at this time of the year than in the autumn. And from this old college town some of the most beautiful views that are to be found in the State can be obtained. It hardly seems as though more picturesque scenes could be laid before a person's eyes than we find when looking down from our many natural observatories. What can have a more ennobling influence upon the minds of students than these gems lavished so extensively around them. To a classical student such surroundings should have an especial attraction. Our professors tell us that to become a good Greek scholar one must feel something of the spirit of the ancient Greeks. Our surroundings certainly ought to arouse this to some extent, bearing, as they do, considerable resemblance to those of the Greeks. The same air of freedom pervades our own Green Mountains that had its influence in the vales of the Peloponnesus. On the engineering or business student these outside attractions of a college have very little influence, but to the young person who wishes to enter the domains of science or literature those things which tend to arouse his imagination and his admiration and interest in the beauty of Nature should be an accompaniment to the pursuit of a course of study. We think our college, with its purely literary and scientific courses and natural surroundings, offers advantages to the last named students which can scarcely be equalled.

THE present plan of conducting the Parkerian prize speaking can hardly be called admirable. The method of selecting speakers does not bring out the best talent of the class, and the plan of uniting it with the Merrill prize speaking causes it to seem to the audience of little importance. Why could it not be held some time during the winter term, having it by itself, so that there could be eight or more contestants? Thus more time could be given to drill and practice in this line. It would also be recognized as being in itself an important occasion. Although it cannot be arranged differently this year, we think it could be made to be more advantageous to our next Freshman class.

THE improvement in the quality of the orations that have been delivered from the chapel stage during the last few mornings of rhetoricals is worthy of mention. Although it is well known that there may be more direct benefit derived from these orations than at other times, yet it seems as though these same persons ought to feel that it is for their benefit to do their best at all times. It is very plain to even the ordinary observer that those who use their best efforts on ordinary occasions are the ones who have the most success at the crisis.

THERE is hardly a doubt that a person may learn more about enthusiasm in pursuing a college course than in any other way. For a person to be real enthusiastic, he must have a sort of inspiration or feeling working within him beyond that of ordinary experience. In college life there are many things

which pertain to the student body as a whole. Many of the one-idea ype would never realize this unless it were for the general enthusiasts. The book-worms would never take any interest in the base-ball team, and the athletes would care nothing for the debating club. Selfish interests would here dominate over class spirit, and fraternal feeling become more important than general college interests. To arouse this enthusiastic spirit class and college yells and songs have been originated. What is there in a college yell? What else is there which will brighten the spirit as a yell given by a class with enthusiasm and energy? What will stir the feelings like the hearty rendering of a college song? Some may doubt if these results are beneficial, since they only see the immediate boisterousness and consider the effect. But a person cannot participate in these things without his spirit being aroused or without feeling new zeal in other things than those which have a direct personal bearing. Thus it is that by a person's becoming enthusiastic he will be able to accomplish more and become a better and more useful man.

SYRACUSE University has adopted the plan of substituting a lecture by some prominent speaker in place of the regular college commencement exercises. We hardly think this plan will meet with much favor among our colleges. It may come forward as a fad, for a short time, but can hardly become a lasting institution. About all the reason for the change must be that it does away with strife for honors upon the commencement stage. But with the plan of competition for these honors carefully arranged, all troubles could be properly adjudicated. By some it is thought the old programmes are too tiresome to the large audience that always attends. But it hardly seems that ten or twelve orations from the lips of persons who are just at the close of a college course and whose best efforts are put into their speeches can be as tedious as an address by a single speaker. Uusually, too, there are many in the audience who feel personal interest in many of the graduates. Let us keep the old-fashioned commencement, which all undergraduates who feel greatly interested in their work look forward to as the culmination of their course.

VOLUME I., No. 25, of THE UNDERGRADUATE' published October 6, 1831, says: "When we look at a field of corn, we find that those stalks which raise their heads the highest are the emptiest. The same is the case with men; those who assume the greatest consequence have generally the least share of judgment and ability".

HOW heartlessly unmindful we often are of the feelings of others. How often we entirely forget the golden rule, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you." How often we cast aside the good will and instructions of our best friends. How thoughtlessly and inconsiderately we go in and out of the class-room. How little we mistrust or realize the interest our professors take in each individual under their instruction. We often have an idea, suitable for the kindergarten, that if we can go in class and make more amusement than any one else we are smart, and are often heard to boast of it outside, not seeming to realize that the professor suffers no harm, but that we unawares sustain serious loss, and are looked upon with charitable sympathy by the professors and those of more sensible ideas. Not that we would put on the drawn face of disconsolation, but if we consider ourselves young men worthy to be college men we should treat our professors with the respect justly due them. Only three hours each day are given to class-room work. Should not that time be spent in the most reasonable and profitable manner?

Literary.

OUR SCENERY.

WE had occasion recently to go from the southern to the northern part of the State. While on this short tour we met with a student from one of our eastern colleges who had been delegated by his college to make a journey up through our State and prepare an article on "Green Mountain Scenery". We were, of course, delighted to give him all the information regarding our beautiful mountains and points of interest which we were able, and the questions he propounded made us to feel ashamed of ourselves that we had lived here so long comparatively regardless of the scenic beauty and loveliness around us. We were farther pleased to note that in passing through our own college town in a "region remarkable for its fertility, healthfulness and natural beauty", that much material of scientific and historic interest was noted for his article. We have been here, perhaps, for two, three or four years without giving special attention or

candid thought to our natural advantages over many other places. Nor is it the purpose of this short article to point out the many different places of interest which center about us, as this has often been done.

The natural beauty of our own immediate surroundings was pleasantly brought to mind as we had occasion recently to walk from the depot to Starr Hall in the most lovely and magical part of the day, four o'clock in the morning, and as we lingered along the campus, lost in admiration and wonderment, while the darting beams of the sun were just beginning to peep over the eastern horizon, the foliage at perfect rest, the repose of night still lingering, the world of nature as well as the students still sleeping, all in unusual stillness just before

> "Day had awakened all things that be,
> The lark and the thrush, and the swallow free",

we could not but feel that the great Giver of all nature had bounteously bestowed us with an unusual share of scenic phenomena. In whatever direction we go from the college, in whatsoever way we take a view, the same indescribable beauty meets our eyes; the little hills and valleys clothed in the fragrance and verdure of spring, rising in the back ground to the lofty mountains of the Green and Adirondack ranges. Whether we look upon this scenery for the admiration of its beauty or for purposes of scientific researches or natural study, the object is the same. Truly, these are the associations we would wish to have our studies among. Surely, no one can remain here who has any perception of scenic beauty without being an ardent admirer of our own, our native land, and of our own, our college town.

THEORY OF VISION.

THE light which Philosophy has shed on the various branches of natural science, while it reflects much honor on the powers of the mind, and has contributed in an important degree to the happiness of mankind, has at the same time, by revealing the limits of that darkness which yet envelopes many of the operations of nature, shown that beyond a certain point, man, in all the pride of intellect, and with all the enthusiasm which curiosity can inspire, attempts in vain to advance.

The Philosopher, even in the midst of the most flattering success, stimulated to fresh ardor by discoveries which mark him in the minds of the admiring multitude as one of a higher order of beings, is met at every step by new obstacles which forbid him to cheerish the slightest emotion of vanity, and continually remind him of the vast disproportion there is between the little he knows and the much of which he feels he must ever remain ignorant.

Various theories of vision have found supporters among the learned of different ages. The Platonists and Stoics held the opinion that rays of light were emitted from the eye; which rays, uniting with the light of the atmosphere, "took hold as it were" of external objects and returned to the eye, so altered and modified by the contact as to cause the perception of the object. The followers of Epicurus believed the sensation of light to be occasioned by the constant emanation of species or images from the object to the eye. The Peripatetics held essentially the same doctrine, excepting that the species which the Epicureans believed to be essential, corporeal forms, they considered as mere incorporeal images impressed successively on the intervening atmosphere until they reached the eye. These theories, and others of a like indefinite nature, were the only offspring of ancient philosophy. Long and violent disputes, concerning mere terms, and those of obscure and doubtful signification, and the obstinate defence of loose theories unsupported by facts and unintelligible even to their authors, were reasons not the most likely to effect the discovery of truth. A careful analysis of the internal structure, of the organ of sight, and a course of reasoning founded on actual experiment have led to the general adoption of a more definite and rational theory. It is now universaly admitted that rays of light proceeding from the sever l parts of an object undergo certain changes in their passage through the transparent parts of the eye by which they are collected and made to form an exact image of the object on a membrane adapted to their reception, which image, by some process with which we are not fully acquainted, causes in the mind the perception of the object.

The single discovery that light is refracted in a particular manner in passing through substances of a certain figure and density—the same property on which vision has been discovered to depend, led to the invention of the Telescope. Galileo, who by having first announced this discovery to the world, gained a reputation unperishing as it is unchallenged, was led to suspect that a number of glasses of different refractory powers might be so arranged as to increase the apparent magnitude of different objects. He made

the experiment. and the Telescope appeared; and with it sprung into new existence planets, and suns, and worlds, which its magic power revealed, I had almost said created, to astonish our delighted vision. While the Telescope enables us to direct our admiring gaze towards other worlds, and in the vastness even of the *visible* Universe, to see our own comparative insignificance, the *Microscope* points out to us the minutest wonders of creation. By its aid we dis cover life and activity on every leaf, and on every pebble, and in a space, narrower than our unassisted vision could discern, we see multitudes of animate beings, capable, like ourselves, of pleasure and pain, and managing the concerns of their brief existence with skilful regularity. Many interesting discoveries have been made with regard to the nature and phe nomena of light. It is generally supposed to consist of particles of matter, which are constantly emitted from the sun and other luminious bodies. The extreme minuteness of the particles of light, the rapidity of their motion, and the many wonderful properties it has been found to possess render it a highly interesting object of speculation, and experiment. The discovery made by the immortal Newton of the different refrangibility of the rays of light forms a bright era in the history of optics. It had never been doubted that the solar light was simple and uncompounded. But Newton proved by conclusive experiments that each ray is composed of seven parts, each differently refrangible, and exhibiting a different color. He exposed to the solar light a glass prism, so constructed as to refract the rays without collecting them in a focus; and the result was a separation of each ray into its several parts according to their different de grees of refrangibility.

"First the flaming red
"Sprung vivid forth: the tawny orange next;
"And next delicious yellow—by whose side
"Fell the kind beams of all-refreshing green:
"Then the pure blue that swells autumnal skies
"Etherial play'd; and then, of sadder hue,
"Emerg'd the deeper indigo, as when
"The heavy skirted evening droops with frost,
"While the last gleamings of refracted light
"Dy'd in the fainting violet away."

Having thus succeeded in decomposing a ray of light, he united its several parts by causing them to pass through another prism, by which process he produced the original colorless, or solar light, and established beyond all reasonable doubt the truth of this theory.

But the most interesting property of light is, its subserviency to vision, considered as the medium by which objects are rendered visible, and are therefore intimately connected with the rich variety of blessings conferred on us by the sense of sight, it cannot fai to excite our attention and call forth our warmest gratitude to Him who in bestowing it and giving us the power of enjoying the pleasure it affords, has conferred that, without which his other gifts, rich in number and variety as they are, would have been comparatively useless.

To attempt an examination of the blessings derived from this sense were an endless and a needless task. The reflecting mind will readily perceive its influence in every transaction, and every enjoyment of life. Without it we should know comparatively nothing of the external world:—the beauties of nature and art would no longer delight us; and danger, in a thousand forms, would approach us unnoticed and unresisted. Are our hearts gladdened by the sight of friends? and do we delight to gaze on features endeared to us by affection—and even in their absence to recall their loved image to our memory? But for this sense our friends and our enemies would be alike undistinguishable, the human countenance would no longer present to us at a glance the various emotions of the soul and we should live, if, indeed, the continuance of existence were possible, not as now, social, active, and happy beings, but solitary and in darkness. Those who have suffered the *loss* of sight can speak most truly and most feelingly of its worth. They can compare their present state of gloom and loneliness with the happier hours when all nature smiled around them, and when each morning brought with it light, life and joyousness to their souls. The poet Milton, who 'seems to have looked back on that loveliness of nature from which he was separated with the melancholy readiness with which the thoughts of the unfortunate and the sorrowful still revert to past enjoyments—thus describes his unhappy condition after the loss of his sight."

"With the year
"Seasons return—but not to me return
"Day, or the sweet approach of ev'n, or morn,
"Or sight of vernal bloom, or summer's rose,
"Or flocks, or herds, or human face divine,
"But clouds instead, and everduring dark
"Surrounds me: from the cheerful ways of men
"Cut off, and for the book of knowledge fair
"Presented with an universal blank
"Of nature's works, to me expurg'd and raz'd,
"And wisdom at one entrance quite shut out."

Alumni Department.

[*At a meeting of the Associated Alumni, Commencement, '91, it was unanimously resolved: "That we heartily endorse* THE UNDERGRADUATE *and warmly recommend it to the Alumni as a valuable means for furthering our common interests in the college and our interests in each other." We respectfully solicit your subscriptions and contributions. Class-histories, reminiscences, obituaries, biographies, literary articles, and papers upon current topics are always in order and desired.*]

A REMINISCENCE.

ONE starlit morning in August, 1844, a young man, who had not attained his majority, left Poultney, Vt., about 2 o'clock A. M. for a short walk to Middlebury, 40 miles away. He was not absolutely obliged to make this pedestrian trip, but how could he *save* and thereby *make* $4 any quicker than by taking it afoot, to see if he had absorbed book-learning enough at "Troy Conference Academy" to enter college; or, had he "burned midnight oil" for naught till "jocund day stood tiptoe on the misty mountain-top?" Stage fare from Poultney was about $2 and by taking an early start he would be more than half way before the poky old stage coach could overtake him. What did he care for a little trip of 40 miles? Not many boys go as far to college afoot and alone, as the girl went to get married and have the fun of beating the wheezy stage horses and be *in* $4 "to boot." "Good bye, mother," was his parting salutation long before the "shepherd's clock," old Chanticleer, crowed long and loud; "the morning's near. I will see how Middlebury looks before sundown. You may expect me home tomorrow night"; and away he went on two as good "shank's horses" as boys often ride. He has forgotten where that lumbering old coach overtook him, but he didn't care a continental for *it*. His "Ebenezer" was up to fever heat and John Gilpin, the London linen draper, was nowhere. A red-hot Millerite, one of Bob Burdette's men,

> "Who holds a listening world in awe,
> The while he works his iron jaw,"

and who talked incessantly of nothing but "going up" and "ascension robes," and the foolishness of college degrees when the end of the world was so near, gave him a ride of two miles, in Whiting; and with that exception the entire distance was completed in long measure, *left foot, right foot*, indefinitum.

> "Good Lord, save us from evils fierce and dire,
> From wreck and flood, from storm and fire,
> From blighting rain and burning drouth—
> And from the man who plays his mouth."

One always meets a plenty of teams, you know, when traveling, especially when the spirits begin to flag and the physical vim begins to weaken. However, in due time, about four by the clock, our pilgrim recorded his name at the "Addison House," kept by that prince of good fellows, Wm. M. Field, who was then running a stage line from Burlington to Boston, and who afterwards became sheriff of Rutland county and was one of its distinguished citizens for many years. After a brief rest and a few observations and inquiries the young man pointed for the house of President Labaree, who lived near by, south of the hotel. The old Prex. met him at the door and after a kindly greeting, looking him over thoroughly and quizzing to his apparent satisfaction, sent him over to Professors Stoddart and Twining, who lived the other side of town not far from the college. Dr. Labaree, with those keen black eyes of his, could look a man through in just eight minutes. And so it came to pass, without going into so many particulars, that the young man was literally an admitted freshman before sunset, fully prepared "to square the circle," ride a goat and "pony", too, as college boys are apt to do, when they can do no better. Just before the sun dissappeared behind the Adirondacks he exchanged labor for refreshment, for he had fasted since leaving Hyde's popular hotel in Sudbury. The next morning, after a good square meal with "mine host", he retraced his steps homeward, reaching the paternal hearth foot-sore and weary, but a freshman of Middlebury College. One goal reached, but there are many before the dignified president will say, "*accedunt seniores!*" How many students of Middlebury college in 1893 walked 80 miles in less than 48 hours for the sake of college honors?

And now, Mr. Editor of the UNDERGRADUATE, this is already a longer communication than you care about and so we will "stop short", right here, remaining as ever

Yours to command,

R. E. MARANVILLE, '48.

Milford, Del.

May 25, 1893.

Personals.

[*The editor of this department appreciates the fact that it is one of special interest to the alumni. But as they are widely scattered and many are unknown to him, he asks them to send to the Undergraduate from time to time whatever items they may come in possession of and thus aid in making this department what the alumni desire it to be and what the editors endeavor to make it.*]

'36. Hon. William Slade, who spent the winter in Washington, will pass the summer as usual in Middlebury.

'38. Dr. Byron Sunderland and wife celebrated their golden wedding on May 22 by a reception, which was attended by President and Mrs. Cleveland and a host of the famous clergymen who were gathered at Washington in attendance on the Presbyterian general assembly. Over 40 years ago Dr. Sunderland preached a sermon in Fayetteville, near Syracuse, on an occasion when he had exchanged with Rev. Stephen Cleveland. Grover, the son, was present and was deeply impressed. Years afterward, when the boy became President, he remembered the man and chose the church where Dr. Sunderland officiated as his own. A newspaper says: "There is nothing fashionable or showy about the church or its pastor. Dr. Sunderland preaches a long sermon, but he possesses a vein of dry Scotch humor which Mr. Cleveland appreciates." We note the following from the New York *World* of May 22: "The commissioners to the Presbyterian assembly occupied the local pulpits today. Rev. Dr. W. Merle Smith, pastor of the church attended by Mrs. Cleveland in New York. preached at the First Presbyterian church, whose pastor is Dr. Sunderland. At the close of the sermon Dr. Sunderland made an unexpected attack upon Prof. Briggs. The church was crowded. Among those present were the President, Mrs. Cleveland and Rev. E. J. Thurber, a brother of the president's secretary, pastor of the American chapel in Paris. Dr. Smith had preached eloquently from the text: 'Bear ye one another's burdens.' At the conclusion of the sermon Dr. Sunderland arose and said: 'I am sure we have all enjoyed Dr. Smith's sermon this morning. But there is one important omission. He neglected to state the cause of the dissension and distraction in the Presbyterian church at this time—the reason why the church has failed to accomplish what it ought to. I want here and now to state the cause. The cause is Dr. Briggs. I would not be in that man's shoes today for all the world. Let us sing hymn No. 533.' Dr. Sunderland's remarks were delivered in a deliberate and emphatic manner and in a loud voice. The white-haired ministers in attendance were eager to catch every word."

'46. Ex-Congressman John W. Stewart is counsel for the Vermont Investment and Guarantee company of Orwell, which was recently obliged to go into liquidation.

'47. Rev. Geo. N. Boardman, D. D., has resigned the chair of Systematic Theology in Chicago Theological Seminary on account of ill health. He has occupied this position since 1872. He expects to retire from active life and make his home in Pittsford. Prof. Boardman became a tutor for his Alma Mater immediately after his graduation, which position he occupied for two years. For three years after this he was at Andover Theological Seminary. In 1852 he returned to Middlebury and occupied the chair of Rhetoric and English Literature for seven years. He then preached at Binghamton, N. Y., until 1872, when he went to Chicago. He was once offered the presidency of the University of Vermont, but declined.

'48. Rev. J. E. Rankin had an excellent article in the *Independent* of May 4 on "Hampton Roads and New York Harbor."

'53. Rev. W. N. Bacon, pastor of the Congregational church at Bridport, writes in a recent letter: "I have enjoyed reading the UNDERGRADUATE, as it refreshes my interest in my Alma Mater, whose prosperity I devoutly wish and seek."

'57. Treasurer L. D. Eldredge has been on a western trip.

'61. Rev. C. N. Thomas, pastor of the Congregational church at New Haven, delivered a lecture at Manchester May 5.

'64. Mayor John A. Mead was recently mentioned in the local paper of that city as a possible candidate for next governor of Vermont.

'67. Hon. David N. Burke, consul at Pernambuco, left for that city the first of June.

'71. Dean Christopher W. Hall of the University of Minnesota delivered one of the lectures in the special course at the Academy of Sciences in Minneapolis, May 16, on "The Formation and Deformation of Minnesota Lakes."

'71. Hon. Walter E. Howard is expected to return home soon.

'81. Rev. Chas. S Murkland of Manchester, N. H., has been elected president of the New Hampshire college of Agriculture and Mechanic arts. Mr. Murkland was prominently named to fill the recent vacancy in the presidency of Dartmouth college. It is understood he will accept his election to the Agricultural college, to which he was unanimously elected.

'84. Elmer E. Cowles of Weybridge is petit juror for the June term of the Addison County court.

'87. George R. Wales held civil service examinations in Burlington May 19 and in Rutland May 20.

'90. H. E. Owen of Port Henry, N. Y., has just passed the examinations at Albany and been admitted to the bar of the State of New York.

'90–'91. Miss Sarah Grace Seely, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. Henry M. Seely, was married at the home of the bride Thursday evening, May 18, to John M. Thomas, a recent graduate of Union Theological Seminary of New York. The ceremony was performed by the groom's father, assisted by Rev. C. F. Noble of Middlebury. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas will live at East Orange, N. J., where Mr. Thomas, early in June, will be installed as pastor of the Arlington Avenue Presbyterian church.

'91. V. C. Harrington of Hartford Theological Seminary visited the college May 20.

'91. C. A. Mead, who has been instructor of Latin and Greek in Burr and Burton seminary, Manchester, Vt., recently acted as one of the judges at the prize-speaking contest of the Rutland High school. Mr. Mead has been chosen to an excellent position as teacher in a private school in the city of Chicago. He is to begin his work there early in September.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The International Year-book of the Young Men's Christian Associations, which has recently been published, gives 428 as the number of college associations.

"Where do you stand?" is often asked concerning the opinions and lives of men. Oliver Wendell Holmes has said: "I find the great thing in this world is, not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving."

The following remark was made at the Indianapolis convention by Mr. T. S. McPheeters: "The Christian Endeavor and Epworth League movements would not have been in existence had it not been for the practical Bible study that has been fostered by the Young Men's Christian Association."

Ex-President Harrison said in a recent speech at the International Convention at Indianapolis: "The first association I was ever president of was the Young Men's Christian Association of this city." Ex-Postmaster General Wanamaker said at the same convention, "The best property a city has is its young men".

All students who are not members of some Sabbath school should attend one of the Biblical lectures given by Prof. Eaton at the Congregational church and by Dr. Plehn at the Baptist church every Sunday at 12 o'clock. We are apt often to get an idea that nearly everything pertaining to the Bible is a disinteresting subject. This depends to a great extent on how we deal with the matter. These lectures are truly instructive and one cannot fail to get interested listening to these, whether interested in the Bible or not. These talks last for about thirty minutes. Come in next Sunday, and if you do not get interested in these talks don't come any more.

Base Ball.

CUBAN GIANTS, 17—MIDDLEURY, 8.

On Tuesday afternoon, May 9, the college team played on the home grounds with the Cuban Giants. About 400 people gathered to witness the game. The visitors went to the bat and piled up nine scores the first inning. This practically settled the game, and it was devoid of the usual interest during the whole nine innings. The only pleasing feature was the coaching by the Giants. The fine playing of the catcher and short stop on the visiting team are worthy of mention. Taylor did good work in the box for the home team. The following is the official score:

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE.

	AB.	R.	IB.	SH.	PO.	A.	E.
C. Ross, ss	5	0	1	0	0	2	2
Taylor, p	5	1	3	0	1	8	0
Adams, lf	4	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sturtevant, 1b	5	3	5	0	11	0	0
Douglass, rf	4	1	2	1	0	0	1
Wynne, cf	5	1	2	0	1	2	2
Wasson, 3b	3	1	2	1	0	0	3
Seeley, c	4	0	1	0	1	2	1
P. Ross, 2b	4	1	0	0	3	0	3
	39	8	16	3	27	14	12

CUBAN GIANTS.

	AB.	R.	IB.	SH.	PO.	A.	E.
A. Jackson, 4b	5	2	2	0	4	3	1
O. Jackson, cf	5	2	1	0	0	0	0
Williams, c	6	3	2	0	1	4	1
Grant, ss	5	2	2	0	3	2	2
Storey, rf	5	3	1	0	1	0	0
W. Jackson, 1b	3	2	2	0	12	0	1
Nelson, 2b	5	1	2	0	4	5	3
Catto, lf	3	1	0	0	1	0	1
White, p	5	1	0	0	1	3	0
	42	17	12	0	27	17	9

Earned runs, Middlebury 3, Cubans 0: 2 base hits, Taylor, Cubans 4; 3 base hits, Middlebury 0, Cubans 0; home runs, Middlebury 0, Cubans 0; stolen bases, Middlebury 4, Cubans 9; double plays, Middlebury 0, Nelson and Jackson: triple plays, Middlebury 0, Cubans 0; bases on balls, Taylor 6, Cubans 0; bases on hit by pitched balls, P. Ross, Storey; struck out by Taylor 10, White 0; passed balls, Seeley 6, Williams 6; wild pitches by Taylor 1, White 0. Time of game, 2 hours 20 minutes. Umpire, P. Stewart.

Saturday, May 13, the college Reserves played the Burlington High school. The visitors fell an easy prey to the reserves. Parkhurst did effective work in the pitcher's box and Grant caught a good game. Ross, '95, played first base; although not in his usual position, he held the ball well. The visitors did very well at the bat, but in the field they made many errors. The game resulted in a score of 18 runs for the Reserves and 8 for the Burlington team.

The Greeks and Latin-Scientifics of the Freshman class played a game of ball May 16. It rained a little during the whole game, and this caused a large score on both sides. It was a more exciting game and aroused more enthusiasm than any other game of the term. Prentiss and Goodman were the battery for the Greeks and Riggs and Wasson for the Scientifics. Prentiss' pitching helped much in the cause of victory for the Greeks. The score stood 22 to 20 in favor of the Greeks.

The game between the home nine and Port Henrys on Decoration day was called during the first inning on account of rain.

Town and Campus.

Senior vacation begins June 10.

Dr. Plehn has rooms at the college.

Commencement Wednesday, June 28.

Wynne, '93, was home for a few days the last of May.

Colby, '92, was in town for a few days the middle of May.

Seeley, '93, was at Webster, N. Y., on business, May 10–11.

Madame Blauvelt will sing at the Commencement concert.

Ross, '95, is captain of the college Reserve base ball nine.

Hesselgrave and Ross, '93, visited Rutland Saturday, May 27.

Sniffen, '96, has been elected manager of the college Reserve nine.

Prentiss, '96, was recently out of college a few days on account of illness.

Sawyer, '94, played the organ at the dedication of the Methodist church.

Russel, '96, has secured a position as guide at the Columbian exposition.

Brown, '93, took the civil service examination at Burlington, May 19.

Sargent, '94, spent a few days at his home in Ludlow the later part of May.

Leonard, '95, has been at his home in Albany, N. Y., for a short time past.

Douglass and Megathlin, '93, were in Boston on business the fore part of May.

Miss Verder, '95, spent May 27–28 with Miss Dunshee, '93, at her home in Bristol.

Scott, '96, manager of the college base-ball team, was in Burlington, May 22, on business.

A large number of the students attended the social at Mr. Jackson's and reported a pleasant time.

R. E. Maranville, '48, has an interesting article in this issue which will fully repay the students for reading.

The D. K. E. and Chi Psi fraternities are building lawn tennis courts on the campus in front of the Starr Hall.

Grant, '95, is boarding at Shephard's restaurant. Hayes and Chapman, '94, are boarding at the Logan House.

Hesselgrave, '93, preached at Bidport Sunday, May 21, in place of Leonard, '95, who was not able to be present.

Hasseltine, '93, Eddy, '94, and Roscoe, '96, sang in the choir at the dedication of the Methodist church May 25.

Douglass, '95, is college correspondent for the Burlington Free Press in place of LaFleur, '94, who has resigned.

Seeley, '93, Wells, '94, and Cushman, '95, took part in the concert given at the town hall on the evening of May 24.

Mr. Frame of Harvard, '91, and who is now in Union theological seminary visited Seely, '93, for a few days recently.

Boating on Otter creek is somewhat hindered this season on account of the new bridge and boom which have been put across.

Prof. C. B. Wright served as one of the judges at the prize-speaking of the Rutland High school in the city of Rutland, May 19.

It is said that appliances for heating the college buildings by steam are to be among the improvements of the coming summer.

Miss Wilder, '93, Miss Pollard, '96, and Fullam, '95, attended the graduating exercises of the Black River academy at Ludlow, Vt., Friday, May 26.

Vicker, '93, has returned to college after a stay of about two weeks at his home in Johnstown, N. Y. Ross, '95, acted as commissary during his absence.

Hesselgrave and Brown, '93, and Vicker, '95, spoke on assigned subjects at the county conference of Congregationalist churches at New Haven, June 2 and 3.

A portion of the college exercises were suspended Thursday, May 25, in order that the students might attend the dedication exercises of the new Methodist church.

Foster, '96, left for Chicago Wednesday, May 17, where he has a position as guard on the fair grounds. Wilson, '95, who has a simular position started one week later.

Douglass, '95, has obtained the position of second head waiter at the Clarendon Hotel, Saratoga, for the coming vacation. He is now engaging a force of waiters from the different colleges.

On Saturday, May 13, four members of the freshman class took a tramp to Snake Mountain. They obtained a view from that place which can hardly be equalled by any other place in the State.

At a recent meeting of the college Athletic association the advisability of holding a Field Day this spring was discussed, and Sargent, '94, was elected as Field-Day director in place of Clark, '94, lately deceased. Mr. Sargent was not present and later resigned the position.

As Hesselgrave, '93, and lady were returning from Bridport a few days ago their horse became frightened and jumped the fence at the side of the road. The two were thrown out, but fortunately were not injured. The horse was caught about a mile away and they returned home in safety.

Arrangements for Commencement are being made, but the full programme has not yet been completed. Among others, the following have already been arranged for: Sunday A. M., Baccalaureate Sermon by President Brainerd; 7:30 P. M., address before the Y. M. C. A. Tuesday, alumni day. address by Prof. L. H. Batchelder, '74; poem by W. H. Button, '90. Wednesday, Commencement day, 10:30. A. M., graduating exercises; 8:30 P. M., Commencement concert, Madame Blauvelt and Gartland's orchestra; 10:30, Commencement ball.

BIRTHDAY BANQUET.

Mr. Erwin A. Hasseltine, '62, tendered a banquet to the members of the Delta Upsilon fraternity, at his home in Bristol, May 24, in honor of the 21st birthday of his son, G. L. Hasseltine, '93. The members of the Fraternity with ladies attended. Everything possible was done for the enjoyment of the guests. An excellent repast was served, at the close of which the toastmaster of the occasion," E. R. Brown, called for the following toasts: "The Occasion", J. B. Donoway; "Childhood Hours", D. H. Blossom; "Youthful Days", John Barlow; "The Future Years", E. J. Fullam; "The Home", Guy C. Lamson; "Dear Old Midd", D. P. Taylor; "Delta Upsilon", A. A. Sargent; "Birthdays", E. A. Hasseltine.

REGARDING COMMENCEMENT.

The attention of the alumni and all interested is specially called to the Commencement concert this year, which will be given on the night of Commencement day. While it is not the intention of the Senior class to make this a greater attraction than the Commencement exercises, still they aim at giving a first-class musical concert. For this, Madame Lillian Blauvelt has been engaged as soprano soloist, who, according to our best city papers, stands without a rival on the concert stage today.

Gartland's orchestra of Albany, N. Y., consisting of thirteen pieces, Mr. J. F. Knoll, cornet soloist, and Mr. Wm. K. Prussian, piccolo soloist, have also been secured. The orchestra will play for the dance after

the concert and for the Commencement exercises in the morning, and we are sure that none who hear them in the morning will wish to miss hearing them in the evening. Concerning a soloist of national repuation, and especially one who enjoys as good a reputation as Mme. Blauvelt does, little need be said. Those acquainted in musical circles, particularly those who heard her at Burlington with the New York Symphony orchestra on the evening of April 22 last, will certainly know that a rare treat is in store for them.

THE MEDITATIONS OF GERRO.

Every class has some peculiarity that marks it as a class. But some peculiarities mark every class the first year they spend in the classic walls of any institution. All the more prominent characteristics of the Freshman are fully noted and censoriously commented upon by those who were Freshmen themselves only a year previous. But one trait universal among Freshmen, and almost entirely absent after they have come to more mature years in their college life, seems to have too much escaped the notice of their official critics. This is the inherent proclivity of every youth who has just reached the dignity of a position whereby he may count himself among the members of a college, to inscribe his name on the desks and walls of the recitation rooms. When as a budding Freshman we saw the name of so many illustrious predecessors on every hand, it led us to the same delusion that blinded the old Pharaohs—that carving it in wood or stone would immortalize a name. And so we added our name to theirs. Profoundly convinced that the honor and glory of our class were hopelessly lost unless it was deeply carved in a hundred places, we engraved it with our initials on our favorite desk and wrote them on the doors of Starr Hall, and almost everywhere else. Later a fraternity badge gave a new motto for inscription. It was owing to the abnormal development of this same bump of Freshman foolishness that led to the foolish and senseless defacement of the chapel not long ago, to the infinite disgust of at least every one who caught the drippings of the potash that was vainly used to remove the stains of the blot.

Now that Gerro has passed the embryonic period of his college career and sees the record of his own nonsense in the indelible characters profusely scattered about, its monstrous idiocy impresses him deeply. In the fitting school or the kindergarten the boy is whipped who cannot keep his new jack-knife in due bounds in course of performing its natural function. But, as in many other things, if it is only a college student, not a boy, who does it, it becomes a very bright thing. How this comes about is more than the learned Gerro can fathom.

It was a bad day. The opposing ball team had inflicted a severe defeat on our valiant boys; we had made a complete flunk in Greek; the long expected check had failed to present itself to our delighted vision. We strode into the reading room with ugly scowl and disconsolate heart. After scattering the papers around a little more widely than they usually are, we picked up a comic sheet and sat down to enjoy for a little while the brilliant wit and fun that blazed from the pages of *Puck* and snapped and crackled from the cartoons of *Life* and *Judge*. But for some strange reason they had little attraction today. The splendid joke on the mother-in-law, the bull dog tugging away on the pantaloons of the lover who did not suit pater familias, the dude with his mighty cane and delicate moustache, Mr. Hayseed Brown blowing out the gas, the goat eating stone walls and wire fences, Pat with his short pipe and turned up nose, Fritz with his ample waist and long-stemmed pipe, our chief executive the size of a hogshead, and other things were all excruciatingly funny and original no doubt; but we were morose and full of bile and couldn't see it. The other fellows had all gone to work and so we sat us down and mused.

One of the distinctive characteristics of the nineteenth century is a morbid desire to be funny. Today the speaker who does not spice his address with a few stale jokes is set down emphatically as dull. No matter how dry and shallow a speech may be, if it is only facetious it will surely have many admirers. The eloquent preacher, the brilliant lecturer, the majestic orator may have a scattered audience, but the funn man is sure of a housefull. And the demand has created a supply. Dozens of papers have absolutely no end in view but to be funny. And every newspaper, and even the religious papers have a column of "Hash," "Tit for Tat," or "Wise and Otherwise". The result is depressing. All the legitimate fields of fun are worked to excess. Every change and twist that can be given to a stale and bygone joke is repeated over and over again. Even the every-day talk of ordinary mortals is a painful attempt to be funny. The

man who wears an earnest face and tries to talk on serious or even sensible subjects is looked upon askance, as a vinegar face and blue-stocking.

Though we feel ugly, still we are willing to soften enough to allow that there is a time to laugh. The ebullitions of youthful jollity find a natural vent in facetiousness and fun. It is natural and all right. But when a man's whole stock in trade of conversation is only this, when the only thing he can say is some attempted funny thing, when all the while he is straining his eyes for some loophole through which an effete pun may be wrenched or dragged forth to the aid of human under-tanding, we think it is time to stop. Is there nothing we can find more elevating than a joke? Thoughtfulness is a far more effective weapon for the destruction of time than wearily ringing all the various plays upon some unfortunate word. Far truer is the satisfaction that comes from labor well performed than the mental vacuity of an hour with *Puck*. The great issues of life cannot be met with a laugh.

By all means don't forget that there is a time to laugh, but that so-called jokes and puns may not receive undue attention, but be held within due bounds is the desire of GERRO.

Exchanges.

The number of high school papers which have come to the UNDERGRADUATE during last term and the present term is larger than ever before. High schools and academies have quite universally adopted the plan of supporting a students' publication. If one compares the present high school journal with the issue of a year or two ago he will find, as a rule, a great improvement in make-up and literature. The *Oracle*, *Kimball Union*, *High School Notes*, *High School Dial*, *Phœnix*, *Institute Journal*, *Academy Student*, *Goddard Record* and the *Polytechnic* from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute are all well managed papers and contain much of school and general interest.

A recent number of the *Owl* contains a good literary article on the "Origin and Progress of the Irish Home Rule Movement". It supports Mr. Parnell and closes thus: "The great leader has gone. The Moses of the Irish cause died within sight of the 'Promised Land.' In times to come his great worth will be more fully seen. As a statesman, the world has had few if any to equal him. He built up a nation. His memory is gratefully enshrined in that nation's heart, where it will live through ages. The fruits of his labours are soon to be realized in Erin's happy rise to her place among the powers of the earth. And then

> "The news shall blaze from every hill
> And ring from every steeple,
> And all the land with gladness fill;
> 'We're one united people.'"

The last two numbers of the Vermont Academy *Life* are especially good and show commendable enterprise on the part of the editors.

The *Academic* has a well-written article on "Popular Superstition". It closes with the following words: "Not superstition, but reverence, is fitting for us today. Looking not on man's achievements to boast of human strength, but to realize that the farther we penetrate the mysteries of God's work, wider and yet wider fields open before us, all unexplored. Science has done and will do marvellous things; but it is true now and will be true after infinite cycles of human progress that man with all his powers may worship, must worship Him who is the source of all knowledge and of all power. And for this worship, in the future as in the past, Nature shall supply

> "A cathedral boundless as our wonder,
> Whose quenchless lamps the sun and moon supply;
> Its choir the wind and waves;
> Its organ, thunder;
> Its dome, the sky."

A recent issue of the T. C. A. *Chronicle* has a sensible article on "The Well-Educated Man." It says: "What is needed today, is an education which will insure physical development, intellectual training, ethical culture and industrial efficiency, appealing at once to the body, mind and soul."

We take especial interest in the *Polytechnic*, from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, possibly because of our acquaintance with the president and professors of the institute. From an editorial in a recent issue the editor apparently does not take much interest in the exchange column. It speaks thus: "We really believe that some of our exchanges keep a regular debit and credit account, praising only such papers as have already noticed them favorably, and we cannot help thinking that half of the puffs one sees in the exchange columns nowadays should be preceded by the commercial formula, 'For value received.'"

We observe among our exchanges this month two new ones the *Integral* from the Case School of Ap-

plied Science and *What's Odd*, which indeed serves to brighten the too often monotonous tone of our Journals.

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